

## New drug submissions— January 2020 APC Decisions

Medicine	Traffic light status	Indication	Other Information
<b>Deflazacort tablet (Calcort<sup>®</sup>)</b>	<b>GREY</b>	Duchenne's Muscular Dystrophy where excessive weight gain with prednisolone is clinically significant	Available evidence showed that deflazacort offered no advantage over prednisolone in terms of efficacy or side effects (other than less weight gain which was not sustained long term). Not deemed to be cost effective
<b>Pentosan Polysulphate Sodium (Elmiron<sup>®</sup>)</b>	<b>RED</b>	Bladder pain syndrome	As per <a href="#">NICE TA 610</a>

## News from the APC - updated/new documents on the APC website:

- [Gynaecomastia guidelines](#) (Update)
- [Headache in adults guideline](#) (Update)
- [Overactive bladder guideline](#) (Update)
- [Male LUTS guideline](#) (Interim Update)
- [Testosterone for hypogonadism and delayed puberty in adolescents, SCP and information sheet](#) (New)
- Antimicrobial guidelines (Updates)
  - [CAP](#)
  - [Cellulitis](#)
  - [Influenza](#)
- [Phosphate Binders SCP](#) (Interim Update - removal of Alu-Caps which has been discontinued)
- [Alternative to prescribing a special database](#) (Update)

### Standard strength liquids for paediatrics:

The APC and acute trusts have agreed to adopt the standard liquid strengths recommended by the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child health (RCPCH) and Neonatal and Paediatric Pharmacists Group (NPPG). The list can be found [here](#) and information will be added to the formulary as the strengths are adopted.

Please encourage patients to return used inhalers to their community pharmacy who can arrange for these to be recycled.



## Horizon Scanning, Formulary amendments and traffic light changes

### Horizon scanning - GREY classification assigned until formal submission

- **Epidyolx<sup>®</sup> 100mg/ml oral solution (cannabidiol)** – NICE TA 614 appropriate to leave as **RED**.
- **Staladex<sup>®</sup> (leuprorelin acetate) 10.72mg implant** – **GREY** - no formal assessment. Noted that licensing not as comprehensive as Prostag-3.
- **Voqe<sup>®</sup> (nicotine) inhaler** – **GREY** no formal assessment
- **Mesalazine 1600mg MR tablet (Octasa<sup>®</sup>)** – agreed to make this strength **GREY** due to the large size of the tablet and more cost effective to use lower strength tablets to make up higher doses.

### Formulary amendments and traffic light changes:

- **Micronised progesterone 100mg oral capsules (Utrogestan<sup>®</sup>)** – to remain **GREY** despite HRT supply issues. A full review is needed to clarify place in therapy.
- **Aqueous cream** – Amended to **GREY** (for new patients) as contains sodium lauryl sulphate (irritant) which makes it unsuitable as a leave-on emollient. May be used as a soap-substitute, but other soap-substitutes on formulary (e.g. Zerocream<sup>®</sup>) that are SLS free and more cost effective. Dermatologists and local GPs support this decision.
- **Ivabradine 2.5mg tablets** – to restrict use of 2.5mg tablets to those unable to halve a 5mg tablet.
- **SodiClor<sup>®</sup> (sodium chloride liquid 5mmol/5ml)** – **GREY** as strength preferred locally (and on national standard strength document) is 5mmol/ml. Lower volume helps with compliance.
- **Pyrazinamide 500mg/5ml unlicensed liquid** – **RED** for paediatric patients where tablets are unsuitable.
- **Hydrocortisone ointment** – to restrict formulary to 1% cream and 1% ointment only. Other strengths **GREY** – non formulary
- **Ibuprofen plasters** – **GREY** – no formal review

### Current work in development

- End of Life Guidelines
- COPD Guideline
- Asthma in adults guideline
- Bronchiectasis self-management plan
- Heart failure traffic light
- Diabetes guideline
- Chronic constipation pathway

### Upcoming NICE publications

Title	Type	Anticipated publication date
Insect bites and stings antimicrobial prescribing	Guidance	December 2019 – delayed June 2020
Asthma: diagnosis, monitoring and chronic asthma management	Guidance	February 2020
Impetigo: antimicrobial prescribing	Guidance	February 2020
Patiromer for treating hyperkalaemia	TA	February 2020
Leg ulcer infection: antimicrobial prescribing	Guidance	February 2020
Venous thromboembolic diseases: diagnosis, management and thrombophilia testing	Guidance	March 2020
Multiple sclerosis in adults: management	Guidance	May 2020

The work of the NAPC is supported and managed by the interface team below. They can be contacted via [MACCG.NottsAPC@nhs.net](mailto:MACCG.NottsAPC@nhs.net)

Laura Catt, Prescribing Interface Advisor, NHS Mansfield and Ashfield CCG

Shadia Jenner, Primary Care Pharmacist, Mansfield&Ashfield CCG (covering Irina Varlan's maternity leave)

Karen Robinson, APC and Formulary Support Technician, Nottinghamshire Health Community

Deepa Tailor, Primary Care Pharmacist, Nottingham City CCG (covering Lynne Kennell's maternity leave)

Jill Theobald, Specialist Interface Efficiencies Pharmacist, Greater Nottingham CCP